

## ILLINOIS COUNCIL ON DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

### Education and Employment Committee Meeting Thursday, November 6, 2014

#### MINUTES

##### Committee Present

Diana Braun  
Bonnie Dohogne, Acting Chair  
Cathy Christensen  
Brian Dixon  
Jose Mendez  
Jose Ovalle

##### Committee Absent

Randy Staton, Chairperson  
Melanie Fleenor/ Rep. Beth Hanselman  
JJ Hanley  
Jeff Stauter

##### Staff

Margie Harkness  
Valencia Elzy

##### APPROVE MAY 15, 2014 MEETING MINUTES

Motion to approve – Diana Braun, seconded – Jose Mendez. **Approved**

##### REVIEW CHILD CARE PROPOSAL

Margie presented an overview of implementation activity to date of ExceleRate, its 3 quality levels, and the 5 Awards of Excellence. The proposal under review ties to implementing the Award of Excellence in Inclusion. It will develop training material, and train inclusion coaches and other trainers at all 6 state Starnet Centers to assist child care providers applying for the Award, and using the Inclusive Classroom Profile observational tool to improve practices through a self-assessment process.

Diana Braun made a **motion**, seconded by Jose Mendez – **To bring the child care proposal as a direct grant to the full Council for a vote at the January 2015 meeting.**

Discussion continued to understand how this tool and the people to be trained fit into the overall Race to The Top Early Learning Grant. The inclusion coaches to be hired will be at the Starnet Centers, which are funded by ISBE to provide training and assistance to parents and teachers/providers. Additional money to support these positions has been written into the RTT expansion grant – should hear in December if approved.

The committee asked that the connection and role of ISBE be understood and an “elevator speech” prepared to assist the committee’s Chair in presenting the proposal to the full Council in January.

**Vote taken:** All ayes – **Approved** Diana’s motion

##### EMPLOYMENT 1<sup>ST</sup> UPDATES

- Per Executive Order, 5 workgroups to form with co-chairs of state agency heads and private sector person. First strategic plan due end of 2014. Groups not yet formed nor begun.

- Jose Mendez continues working with DRS to entities funded under BIP to use the Individual Placement and Support model with job seekers with intellectual disabilities.
- Equip for Equality presented an Employment First Blueprint written under a grant from The Chicago Community Trust. Contains broad recommendations for state agencies which could be a basis for the Strategic Plan to be written.

### **OTHER**

### **ADJOURN**

Motion to adjourn made by Cathy Christensen, seconded by Jose Ovalle. **Approved.**

Adjourned by Acting Chair Bonnie Dohogne at 2:00 p.m.

**Next regular meeting  
January 8, 2015**